



MEDIA RELEASE

City Fire Department Honored Fallen Firefighter

SANTA BARBARA, CA – April 30, 2012



Santa Barbara City firefighters past and present joined for a ceremony honoring the life of Thomas Glen Fernandes this past Sunday, April 29. The ceremony took place in the Firescape Garden directly across the street from Station 7 located at 2411 Stanwood Drive. A commemorative plaque was unveiled in the garden recognizing Tom's accomplishments as a firefighter and as a key player in the planning and implementing of the Firescape Garden.

Thomas Glen Fernandes was born on Nov. 1, 1949 in Lynwood, CA. Tom graduated from William Howard Taft High School in 1968 and attended Pierce Junior College from 1968 to 1969.

When not in school, Tom worked in the Hazard Abatement Section for LA County Fire in the summers of 1968-1973. The Santa Barbara City Fire Department hired Tom on August 16, 1973. Early in his career Tom worked at Station 1 and Station 4 as a firefighter before being promoted to the rank of Engineer on March 22, 1980 where he transferred to Station 7 for the remainder of his career.

Tom was committed not only to the citizens of Santa Barbara but also the citizens of our country taking three separate leave of absences for the Air National Guard in years 1974 and 1975.

Tom went off duty in September of 1985 and tragically lost his battle with job related cancer only a short time later on December 18, 1985. Tom Fernandes is survived by his wife Diane Kriger and three children, Jason, Ashley, and Matt. One of his children, Jason Fernandes, has followed in his father's footsteps recently being hired by the Santa Barbara City Fire Department.

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